Bodhgaya Temple Management Committee constituted under Bodhgaya Temple Act, 1949.

Another UNESCO Mission visited Hampi in the first week of August, 2005 in connection with preparation of Site management plan for Hampi. The recommendations of the Mission is yet to be received. The Mission held discussions with ASI, Government of Karnataka and other stake holders and recommended early finalisation of Management Plan and operationalisation of the Hampi World Heritage Area Management Authority, which is a statutory Authority under the Government of Karnataka. The preparation of the operational Site Management Plan is underway.

Survey for restoration of manuscripts

2660. SHRIMATI VANGA GEETHA: Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are conducting any survey to conserve and restore manuscripts;

(b) if so, whether Government had set up any committee for this purpose;

(c) if so, the details of such survey taking place in States/UTs;

(d) whether it is also a fact that Government are facing problem in tracking down experienced practitioners of traditional conservation methods who live in far-flung areas;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) whether it is also a fact that Government are taking preservation feedback from the traditional Sri Lankan experts;

(g) if so, the details thereof; and

(h) the expenditure incurred thereon?

THE MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) and (b) National Mission for Manuscripts set up by Government in Feb. 2003 is taking up survey of manuscripts.

(c) Survey has taken place in 30 districts of Orissa, 13 districts of UP. 10 districts of Bihar and in Delhi. 6.5 lakh manuscripts were located in 37,000 repositories ranging from big libraries to small private collections. Similar surveys are being undertaken in Gujarat, J&K, Assam, Manipur, Tripura, Arunachal Pradesh, Sikkim, Karnataka, Rajasthan and Kerala etc.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Not applicable.

(f) and (g) The National Mission for Manuscripts is gathering information not only on indigenous techniques and practitioners engaged in conservations of Manuscripts, but also about such techniques and practitioners in South Asia. In a seminar held earlier this year on indigenous methods of conservation, one Sri Lankan delegate from University of Peradeniya presented a paper on traditional palm leaf conservation materials and techniques.

(h) The expenditure incurred by the National Mission for Manuscripts during the year 2003-04 and 2004-05 was Rs. 2.18 crores and Rs. 4.57 crores respectively.

Renovation of Mahaprasad Market of Jagannath Temple

2661. MS. PRAMILA BOHIDAR:
SHRI B.J. PANDA:

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government of Orissa has asked the Archaeological Survey of India to expedite renovation of Mahaprasad Market of the holy Jagannath Temple, popularly known as Anand Bazar;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the reasons for delay in execution of the renovation work; and

(d) by when, it would be completed?